

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A welded profile for fitting a digger with a backhoe bucket or a loading shovel, said welded profile comprising:

an upper flange and a lower flange; and

sidewalls operatively connected to the upper flange and lower flange; ~~and, wherein~~
the sidewalls comprise upper corner regions, and lower corner regions and sidewall elements
connecting the upper and lower corner regions, wherein each of the upper and lower corner
regions comprise a ,having reinforced profile[[s]], formed with a separate sheet-metal sheet,
between the upper flange and the sidewall[[s]] elements and between the lower flange and
the sidewall[[s]] elements, respectively[[:];], wherein the upper and lower corner regions ~~are~~
~~formed with separate sheet metal sheets that~~ are welded to the respective sidewall[[s]]
elements, wherein the sidewall[[s]] elements have a thinner cross section than the upper and
lower corner regions, and wherein the upper and lower corner regions include positioning
locations for cylinder attachment points.
2. (Currently Amended) The profile as defined in claim 1, wherein at least the lower flange is
positioned between the lower corner regions, so as to be essentially flush with the respective
lower corner regions.
3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The profile as defined in claim 1, wherein the upper and lower corner regions include a reducing cross-sectional area.
5. (Currently Amended) The profile as defined in claim 4, wherein the reducing cross-sectional area faces the respective sidewall element.
6. (Currently Amended) The profile as defined in claim 4, wherein the reducing cross-sectional area ends flush with an inside contour of the respective sidewall element.
7. (Currently Amended) The profile as defined in claim 4, wherein the reducing cross-sectional area ends flush with an outside contour of the respective sidewall element.
8. (Currently Amended) The profile as defined in claim 4, wherein the reducing cross-sectional area converges towards an inside and outside contour of the respective sidewall element.
9. (Currently Amended) The profile as defined in claim 1, wherein the upper corner regions include[[s]] a contour connected to the upper flange and which accommodates the cylinder attachment points.
10. (Previously Presented) The profile as defined in claim 1, further comprising a connection element welded on an exposed end region of the profile and comprising a hollow-box

design, wherein a cross-section of the connection element is adapted to a cross-section of the exposed end region.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a welded profile for fitting a digger with a backhoe bucket or loading shovel, comprising:

welding sidewall[[s]] elements to upper and lower reinforced-profile corner regions
to form sidewalls;

inserting and welding a lower flange between the lower reinforced-profile corner regions;

inserting and welding an upper flange between the upper reinforced-profile corner regions; and

forming a contour of the welded profile so that the corner regions comprise integrated regions for the cylinder attachment points.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 11, wherein the sidewalls and the corner regions are shaped to match a contour of a connected boom or arm.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 11, wherein contours of the corner regions on the lower flange comprise integrated regions for the cylinder attachment points.

14. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 11, including forming the corner regions with higher reinforcement than the sidewall[[s]] elements and with reducing cross-sectional areas that are fixed to the respective sidewall element.
15. (Currently Amended) The profile as defined in claim 1, wherein the upper and lower corner regions are connected by welding to the respective upper flange and lower flange.